GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3742
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2001
FAMINE IN RAJASTHAN
JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the loss suffered by the farmers of Rajasthan due to famine during the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government have sought details from the State Governmentregarding the loss of crops to the farmers, if so, the date on which this information was sought and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Union Government are formulating any scheme to help famine hit farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)&(b): As reported by the Government of Rajasthan, crop area in 64.96 lakh ha.during 1998-99, 78.18 lakh ha. during 1999-2000 and 89.47 lakh ha. during 2000-01 were affected by drought.

(c): It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake necessarymeasures in the wake of natural calamities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government with financial and logistic support. The Union Government have, however, provided Rs.113.97 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund and 6.68 MTs. of wheat free of cost for undertaking the Food for Work Programme, in addition to many other items of assistance.